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ACTION AF-01

INFO	LOG-00	AID-01	CIAE-00	SMEC-00	OASY-00	DODE-00	OIGO-01
	H-01	TEDE-00	INR-00	IO-16	L-01	ADS-00	NSAE-00
	NSCE-00	OIC-02	OMB-01	PA-01	PM-00	PRS-01	P-01
	SNP-00	SP-00	SR-00	SSO-00	SS-00	TRSE-00	T-00
	USIE-00	FMP-00	PMB-00	PRM-10	DRL-09	G-00	/046W

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O 061554Z SEP 94  
FM AMEMBASSY KAMPALA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1710  
INFO USDAO LILONGWE MI  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GE  
AMEMBASSY KIGALI  
USMISSION GENEVA  
AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 KAMPALA 007211

E.O. 12356: N/A  
TAGS: PREL, PREF, MARR, AMGT, EAID, UG  
SUBJECT: AS JTF WINDS DOWN, NGO'S PREPARE FOR  
- HANDOVER AND GOU PRESENTS TEN MILLION  
- DOLLAR TAB.

REF: KAMPALA 07125

1. CONFIDENTIAL - ENTIRE TEXT.

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2. THIS IS AN ACTION MESSAGE. SEE PARA. 14.

3. SUMMARY: IN A FAREWELL MEETING WITH LTG SCHROEDER AUGUST 31, MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENSE MBABAZI EXPRESSED SATISFACTION AT THE LEVEL OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE US AND UGANDAN MILITARY RESULTING FROM OPERATION SUPPORT HOPE. MEANWHILE, REPRESENTATIVES OF UN AGENCIES WORRIED THAT THE REDEPLOYMENT OF FORCES OUT OF THEATRE WAS HAPPENING TOO QUICKLY. AND THE UGANDAN MINISTER OF WORKS, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS DELIVERED A TEN MILLION

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DOLLAR INVOICE FOR RUNWAY AND TAXIWAY REPAIRS AT  
ENTEBBE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. END SUMMARY.

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4. LTG SCHROEDER, ACCOMPANIED BY CHARGE AND DATT, PAID A COURTESY CALL ON MINISTER OF STATE FOR DEFENSE MBABAZI AUGUST 31, PRIOR TO SCHROEDER'S DEPARTURE TO GERMANY TO PARTICIPATE IN AN AFTER ACTION MEETING ON OPERATION SUPPORT HOPE. SCHROEDER THANKED MBABAZI FOR THE COOPERATION OF THE GOVERNMENT OF UGANDA THROUGHOUT THE OPERATION, AND STRESSED THE IMPORTANCE OF UGANDA AS A ROLE MODEL FOR THE RWANDAN GOVERNMENT, WHICH WILL NEED TO PRACTICE THE POLITICS OF INCLUSION AND RECONCILIATION IN ORDER TO ACHIEVE LONG-TERM PEACE AND STABILITY.

5. MBABAZI THANKED THE UNITED STATES FOR RESPONDING TO THE HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY, AND EXPRESSED SATISFACTION THAT UGANDA WAS ABLE TO PLAY A SUPPORTING ROLE. HE RECOGNIZED THAT THE BENEFIT FOR UGANDA HAD BEEN CLOSER COOPERATION WITH THE U.S.

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MILITARY, ESPECIALLY IN TERMS OF ACCESS TO HIGH LEVEL VISITORS WHO WOULD NOT HAVE COME THIS WAY OTHERWISE. MBABAZI OFFERED TO ARRANGE FOR SCHROEDER TO TOUR OTHER PARTS OF UGANDA, INCLUDING THE NORTH, WHEN HE RETURNS TO ENTEBBE LATER THIS MONTH.

6. SCHROEDER REVIEWED IN GENERAL TERMS THE STATUS OF THE U.S. IMET AND JCET MILITARY TRAINING PROGRAMS FOR UGANDA. HE ALSO REFERRED TO A NUMBER OF PROGRAMS AND SEMINARS THAT OCCUR THROUGHOUT THE YEAR AT THE USARMY MARSHALL CENTER IN GERMANY, AND SAID THAT HE WOULD LOOK INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF MBABAZI PARTICIPATING IN A PROGRAM IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

7. SUBSEQUENTLY, MINISTER OF WORKS, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS RUHAKENA RUGUNDA TOOK THE OCCASION OF AN INTRODUCTORY CALL BY INCOMING USAID/KAMPALA DIRECTOR SEPTEMBER 2 TO PRESENT A BILL FOR USDOLS TEN POINT EIGHT MILLION (\$10.8 MILLION) FOR REPAIR AND REHABILITATION OF RUNWAYS AND TAXIWAYS AT ENTEBBE AIRPORT. THE MINISTER, ACCOMPANIED BY THE MANAGING DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION AMBROSE AKANDONDA, SAID THAT THE COST OF THE REHABILITATION WAS CALCULATED AT USDOLS 42.50 PER SQUARE METER OF SURFACE. RUGUNDA

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EXPRESSED THE HOPE AND EXPECTATION THAT THE USG WOULD RESTORE THE RUNWAYS TO THEIR CONDITION PRIOR TO THE START OF OPERATION SUPPORT HOPE. THE AID DIRECTOR SAID HE WOULD RELAY THE REQUEST TO WASHINGTON.

8. MEANWHILE, UN RELIEF AGENCIES OPERATING IN ENTEBBE AND KIGALI FEAR THAT THE U.S. MILITARY IS PLANNING TO DEPART THEATRE BEFORE OTHERS ARE PREPARED

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TO TAKE ON ESSENTIAL TASKS. IN PARTICULAR, RELIEF AGENCY REPRESENTATIVES ARE SEIZED WITH THE PROBLEM OF HAVING SUFFICIENT MATERIALS HANDLING EQUIPMENT (MHE, I.E., FORKLIFTS, ETC.) AT THE KIGALI AIRPORT AFTER THE DEPARTURE OF U.S. MILITARY RESOURCES.

9. SABENA AIRLINES INSTITUTED WEEKLY DC-10 COMMERCIAL SERVICE TO KIGALI ON SEPTEMBER 3, AND REPORTEDLY AIR RWANDA HAS SERVICEABLE MHE AT THE KIGALI AIRPORT. COMMERCIAL CAPABILITIES FOR AIRCRAFT FUELING AND CARGO HANDLING ARE NOT YET IN PLACE IN KIGALI, ACCORDING TO UN AGENCIES, BUT EFFORTS ARE UNDERWAY TO OBTAIN THEM ON A COMMERCIAL BASIS BY THE TIME THE JTF DEPARTS. THE JTF ALSO CURRENTLY PROVIDES AIRCRAFT MARSHALLING IN KIGALI; THIS FUNCTION IS TO BE ABSORBED BY UNAMIR.

10. BY WAY OF BACKGROUND, AS OF AUGUST 3, JTF HAS NO PERSONNEL REMAINING ON THE GROUND IN GOMA, AND IS CONDUCTING DAYLIGHT ONLY OPERATIONS IN KIGALI, WITHDRAWING APPROXIMATELY 35 PERSONNEL FROM KIGALI TO UGANDA EACH EVENING AND RETURNING THEM IN THE MORNING. THE JTF IS CONTINUING TO OPERATE AN AIRHEAD

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AT ENTEBBE, WITH SIX C-130'S TO PROVIDE AIRLIFT FOR  
RELIEF MATERIALS FROM ENTEBBE TO GOMA AND KIGALI. IN  
ADDITION, SOUTH AFRICA, NEW ZEALAND AND GERMANY EACH  
HAVE ONE C-130 BASED AT ENTEBBE. ALL OF THE THIRD  
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COUNTRY MILITARY AIRLIFT WILL DEPART THE THEATRE BY  
SEPTEMBER 15, WITH JTF OPERATIONS SCHEDULED TO CEASE  
COMPLETELY BY SEPTEMBER 28. AS OF SEPTEMBER 3,  
APPROXIMATELY 800 U.S. MILITARY PERSONNEL REMAINED IN  
ENTEBBE, WITH NUMBERS REDUCING SIGNIFICANTLY EACH DAY.

11. MOST OF THE U.S. AIRLIFT CAPACITY AT ENTEBBE HAS  
BEEN SEVERELY UNDERUTILIZED OVER THE PAST WEEK DUE TO  
DISAGREEMENTS BETWEEN UN AGENCIES HERE AS TO HOW AND  
WHERE RELIEF COMMODITIES SHOULD BE DISTRIBUTED. AS  
OF SEPTEMBER 3, THERE WERE APPROXIMATELY 400 METRIC

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TONS OF RELIEF COMMODITIES BACKLOGGED AT ENTEBBE AIRPORT, BUT ONLY 23 METRIC TONS OF AIRLIFT HAD BEEN REQUESTED FROM JTF. OVER THE WEEKEND, JTF ASSISTED UN AGENCIES TO COME TO AGREEMENT, AND HAS SCHEDULED C-130'S TO CLEAR THE BACKLOG BY NEXT WEEK.

12. ALTHOUGH RELIEF AGENCIES CONCUR WITH JTF'S ASSESSMENT THAT THE HUB FOR RELIEF ACTIVITIES SHOULD SHIFT AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE FROM ENTEBBE TO KIGALI, RELIEF COMMODITIES ARE LIKELY TO CONTINUE TO ARRIVE AT ENTEBBE IN THE NEAR FUTURE DUE TO BOTH CONTRACTUAL AND INSURANCE REASONS. THE WORLD FOOD PROGRAM AND UNHCR ARE WORKING TO ARRANGE NONMILITARY TRANSPORTATION OF COMMODITIES FROM ENTEBBE TO FINAL DESTINATION AFTER THE DEPARTURE OF THE JTF.

13. COMMENT: AS DESCRIBED IN REFTTEL, THE GOU WAS EXTREMELY FORTHCOMING IN ALLOWING OPERATION SUPPORT HOPE UNHINDERED ACCESS TO ENTEBBE WITHOUT ANY FORMAL AGREEMENT IN PLACE. IT IS INCUMBENT UPON US TO MAKE  
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GOOD ON ANY GENUINE DAMAGE TO THE AIRPORT, BOTH TO SECURE FUTURE ACCESS AND BECAUSE IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO. EMBASSY BELIEVES A US AIR FORCE ASSESSMENT OF THE TARMAC CONDITION, INCLUDING AN ANALYSIS OF DAMAGE CAUSED BY SUPPORT HOPE ACTIVITIES, WOULD BE AN APPROPRIATE STARTING POINT IN ADDRESSING THE GOU REQUEST. CLEARLY, THE IMPORTANCE OF THE AIRPORT TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THIS LANDLOCKED COUNTRY--AND THE USG'S OWN OBJECTIVES FOR STABILITY IN THIS REGION--IS SIGNIFICANT. END COMMENT.

14. ACTION REQUEST: PLEASE PROVIDE GUIDANCE FOR EMBASSY TO USE IN RESPONDING TO REQUEST TO MAKE GOOD ON RUNWAYS AND TAXIWAYS AT ENTEBBE AIRPORT.

15. KIGALI MINIMIZE CONSIDERED.

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